

Chris would bring his keen intellect, good judgment, and steady leadership to the staff director role. Although Chris had never worked in the intelligence community, I knew that he had the right balance of respect for the intelligence community's mission and commitment to the Senate's important oversight role.

Chris dove into this role head first, learning everything he could about the intelligence community, becoming a champion of its missions and of its workforce. He traveled the world in pursuit of ground truth, joining me on trips to war zones, crisis hotspots, and training locations to show the intelligence community our support; traveling via trains, planes, armored cars, helicopters, and, occasionally, souped-up golf carts. Chris knew the value of an in-person thank-you to our people in harm's way and the importance of a surprise stop to ensure that the reality on the ground was described back in Washington in the same way.

Chris's bipartisanship and his supportive leadership style served him well during his time on the Intel Committee. Thankfully, he also kept his sense of humor and his penchant for movie quotes and exactly the right GIF.

As staff director during the SSCI's Russia investigation, Chris led a bipartisan team of staffers on an almost 4-year-long effort to uncover foreign interference in the 2016 election. Although we had some heated moments and a lot of drama, Chris never wavered from the mission that Senator WARNER and I had given the staff: to follow the facts wherever they led.

Chris's leadership style is not flashy, and his quiet support for the SSCI staff and his devotion to the IC mission kept the committee focused on its essential oversight mission throughout a high-profile investigation in the beginning of the pandemic.

Clearly, Chris could not get enough of this important mission, and for the last 2 years, Chris has served as the senior adviser on the committee, continuing the committee's efforts to focus the intelligence community on critical work exposing malign foreign influence. His work is clearly rated AAA.

Chris, I am proud of you. I am so thankful to you, and I hope you know how much your service has meant to all of us and especially to me. You have been a voice of common sense in a divisive time, a steady hand through good times and bad times, and a champion of the legislative branch. Our Nation is safer, our intelligence community is sharper, and this institution is stronger because of you. Thank you for dedicating your life and service to your Nation and thank you for your dedication to me. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to have you by my side on this journey. We wish you well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all postcloture cloture time has expired.

The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 2 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER AUSTEN JOYNER

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I apologize to my good friend the Senator from North Carolina for being a bit late. I have never seen him be this timely and this brief in his comments.

But I wanted to take a moment to echo what I know he said about Chris Joyner, who has served with enormous distinction for Senator BURR in both his personal office and on the Intelligence Committee. I want to particularly recognize Chris and my staff director, Mike Casey, who managed to work together and, frankly, negotiate a peace treaty between Senator BURR and me. When we started the Russia investigation, we had a few bumps.

But, as I am sure Senator BURR has pointed out, Chris served with enormous distinction in a very, very challenging time, putting together an investigation that came with integrity, truthfulness, and bipartisanship in a period—particularly under the previous administration—where those milestones were not often highly regarded.

Chris has decided to move forward in his career, and I simply want to join and echo Senator BURR's comments about his commitment and service and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I appreciate the courtesy of an extra couple of minutes.

VOTE ON BRENNAN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Brennan nomination?

Ms. DUCKWORTH. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The result was announced—yeas 61, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 13 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Baldwin	Coons	Hirono
Bennet	Cornyn	Kaine
Blumenthal	Cortez Masto	Kelly
Booker	Duckworth	King
Brown	Durbin	Klobuchar
Burr	Feinstein	Leahy
Cantwell	Gillibrand	Manchin
Capito	Graham	Markey
Cardin	Grassley	McConnell
Carper	Hassan	Menendez
Casey	Heinrich	Merkley
Collins	Hickenlooper	Murkowski

Murphy	Sanders	Warner
Murray	Schatz	Warnock
Ossoff	Schumer	Warren
Padilla	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Peters	Sinema	Wicker
Portman	Smith	Wyden
Reed	Stabenow	Young
Rosen	Tester	
Rounds	Van Hollen	

NAYS—35

Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Blunt	Hawley	Risch
Boozman	Hoeben	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cassidy	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Kennedy	Shelby
Crapo	Lankford	Sullivan
Cruz	Lee	Thune
Daines	Lummis	Toomey
Ernst	Marshall	Tuberville
Fischer	Moran	

NOT VOTING—4

Barrasso	Romney
Lujan	Tillis

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KAINE).

Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 657, Charles Esque Fleming, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Gary C. Peters, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Sherrod Brown, Patty Murray, Tammy Duckworth, Tim Kaine, Elizabeth Warren, Mazie Hirono, Alex Padilla, Tina Smith, Christopher A. Coons, Amy Klobuchar, Jon Tester.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Charles Esque Fleming, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).